

REMARKS

Claims 11-14 and 20-25 were rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Caldwell (7,036,773) in view of Bombled et al (5,613,653) and further in view of Boyle et al (5,172,717). Claim 26 was rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Caldwell (7,036,773) in view of Bombled et al (5,613,653) and Boyle (5,172,717) and further in view of Santhoff et al (7,027,483).

Applicant has amended independent claim 11 to additionally require that the lengths of the periods of time that the single power supply is interrupted function as the actual communication of the system with each different length of time interruption having a different meaning. Support for these limitations is contained throughout the originally filed application. (See in part, Figure 4, pg. 17, line 17 through pg. 18, line 17, and other portions of the originally filed application). Neither Caldwell nor Bombled et al disclose anything about how the communications take place, let alone disclose these additional limitations. Boyle does not supply these missing limitations as in Boyle the power is interrupted so that other communication signals can be transmitted, necessitating separate hardware to interrupt power and to provide communications. (See Boyle, Col. 30, Line 26 to Col. 32, Line 38, and Figure 10 showing extra hardware). Applicant's claimed invention avoids the extra hardware of Boyle to transmit communication signals because the communicated information is the actual length of time of the power interruption. This limitation is completely missing from Boyle, Caldwell, and Bombled. As such, amended independent claim 11 is in condition for allowance.

Dependent claims 12-14 and 20-26 each depend from independent claim 11, add additional limitations, and are now also in condition for allowance.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that Claims 11-14 and 20-26 are in condition for allowance and that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case. The Examiner is invited to contact the below-listed attorney if the Examiner believes that a telephone conference is necessary.

Respectfully submitted,

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